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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/642,443	08/14/2003	Rene Francois Monet	BR6.P30	2473

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STRATTON BALLEW
213 S 12TH AVE
YAKIMA, WA 98902

EXAMINER

GRUNBERG, ANNE MARIE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1661

DATE MAILED: 01/27/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/642,443	Applicant(s) MONET, RENE FRANCOIS	
	Examiner Anne Marie Grunberg	Art Unit 1661	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 14 August 2003 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date ____. | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

DETAILED ACTION

Drawings

The drawings must disclose all the distinctive characteristics of the plant capable of visual representation. In the instant case, only whole fruit has been represented. New photographs showing the fruit flesh, pit cavity and stone should be submitted. Applicant is also encouraged to send in new photographs showing the bloom, leaves, trunk and branches.

Objection to the Disclosure

37 CFR 1.163

The following is a quotation of section (a) of 37 CFR 1.163:

(a) The specification must contain as full and complete a disclosure as possible of the plant and the characteristics thereof that distinguish the same over related known varieties, and its antecedents, and must particularly point out where and in what manner the variety of plant has been asexually reproduced. In the case of a newly found plant, the specification must particularly point out the location and character of the area where the plant was discovered.

35 USC § 112

The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

In plant applications filed under 35 U.S.C. 161, the requirements of 35 U.S.C. 112 are limited.

The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

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As specific to United States Plant Patent applications, the specifics of 37 CFR 1.164 (reproduced below) are controlling:

The claim shall be in formal terms to the new and distinct variety of the specified plant as described and illustrated, and may also recite the principal distinguishing characteristics. More than one claim is not permitted.

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 162:

No plant patent shall be declared invalid for noncompliance with section 112 of this title if the description is as complete as is reasonably possible. The claim in the specification shall be in formal terms to the plant shown and described.

The disclosure is objected to under 35 CFR 1.163(a) and under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, because the specification presents less than a full, clear, and complete botanical description of the plant and the characteristics which define same *per se* and which distinguish the plant from related known cultivars and antecedents.

More Specifically:

A. The specification must contain as full and complete a disclosure as possible of the plant and the characteristics thereof that distinguish the same over related known varieties, and its antecedents. In the instant case, the parents are not named and there is no comparison between the parents and the claimed variety. Additionally, no comparisons have been made between the instant variety and other similar varieties.

B. Applicant is reminded that the name of the tree should be the same as that filed in other UPOV countries if plant variety protection has been sought elsewhere.

C. The specification must contain as full and complete a disclosure as possible of the plant. As a result, the age of the described tree, the location of the described plant, and definitions for the word "Medium" should be set forth. Specifically, the vigor, branch thickness, length of internodes, extent of anthocyanin coloration, time of flowering, duration of flowering, the petal size, the length and number of reproductive organs, time of leaf bud burst, size of the leaves, leaf gland description, length of the petiole, size of the fruit, depth and width of the

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petiole cavity, suture size and description, extent of anthocyanin coloration of the skin, sugar content of the flesh, stone size, time and duration of maturity, and time of senescence need to be quantitatively set forth. In addition, a description of the bark and fruit lenticels, height of the tree, position of the petals, fragrance, blossom size, fertility, bearing, flesh melting characteristics, stone texture, and chilling requirement, should be set forth as well. Information as to whether the plant was grown on its own roots or alternatively the rootstock description is also required.

D. Since the location affects the phenotype of the plant, Applicant is encouraged to describe the location at which the plant was grown and set forth the environmental conditions under which it was grown.

E. The specification must point out where and in what manner the variety of plant has been asexually reproduced.

F. Where color is a distinctive feature of the plant, the color should be positively identified in the specification by reference to a designated color as given by a recognized color dictionary or color chart. Distinctive features include the bark, bark lenticels, branches, branch anthocyanin, calyx, petals, sexual organs, pollen, adaxial and abaxial side of the leaves, leaf veins, leaf glands, nectaries, petiole, ground color of fruit skin, skin anthocyanin color, fruit flesh, pit cavity and stone.

The above listing may not be complete. Applicant should carefully review the disclosure and import into it any corrected or additional information, which would aid in botanically identifying and/or distinguishing the cultivar for which United States Plant Patent protection is sought.

Claim Rejections

35 U.S.C. 112, 1st & 2nd Paragraphs

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Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraphs as not being supported by a clear and complete botanical description of the plant for the reasons set forth in the Objection to the Disclosure Section above.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Zaiger et al.

Claim 1 is drawn to a nectarine tree that is vaguely described as having yellow skin.


Zaiger et al. teach a yellow skinned nectarine tree (column 5, under Skin: *Color*:, for example).

Future Correspondence

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Anne Marie Grünberg whose telephone number is (571) 272-0975. The examiner can normally be reached from Monday through Thursday from 7:30 until 5:00, and every other Friday from 7:30 until 4:00.

If attempts to reach the examiner are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Andrew Wang, can be reached at (571) 272-0811. The fax number for the unit is 571-273-8300.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-1600.


ANNE MARIE GRÜNBERG
PRIMARY EXAMINER